



#12
12/13/80

PATENT
1750-045

**AFTER FINAL RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 8 2000

In re application of:

R. J. Obremski, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/063,978

Filed: April 21, 1998

For: DETECTION OF VERY LOW
QUANTITIES OF ANALYTE
BOUND TO A SOLID PHASE

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: J. Hines

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on November 30, 2000	
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

BOX AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action dated September 1, 2000, which was paper #11 of the present application.

REMARKS:

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 13-19, and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ekins *et al.*, EP 304,202, ('202 patent) in view of Ekins *et al.*, J. of Clinical Immunoassay (Immunoassay reference). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to a microscale binding assay, an analyte binding array and a kit for use in a binding assay with a high sensitivity for very low quantities of analyte. All three independent claims of

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